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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	:	09/991,702	Confirmation No.:	3992
Applicant	:	Gino Palumbo		
Filed	:	Nov. 26, 2001		
TC/A.U.	:	1742		
Examiner	:	S. Ip		
Docket No.	:	AUST3001		
Customer No.	:	23364		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22202-3514

Sir:

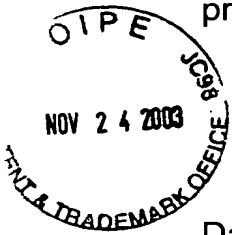
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.51(b), §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is submitted herewith.

Each of the documents listed on form PTO-1449 was cited in the Written Opinion dated November 10, 2003, in connection with the corresponding international application no. PCT/US01/44061. A copy of the aforementioned Written Opinion is also submitted herewith for the examiner's consideration.

It is to be noted that the accompanying form PTO-1449 only lists the Japanese abstract cited in the Written Opinion. The other reference cited in the Written Opinion (LeHockey et al.) is already of record in the present application.

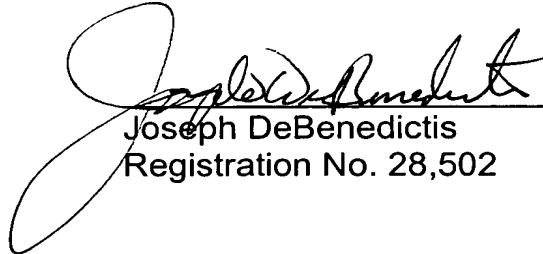
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits received by Applicant in the above-identified application.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.



Date: November 21, 2003

Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

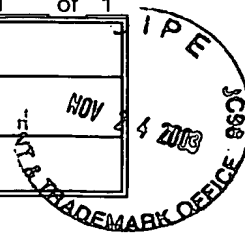


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B/O Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	Atty. Docket Number AUST3001/JDB	Serial Number 09/991,702
	Applicant AUST t al.	
	Filing Date Nov. 26, 2001	Group 1742



U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Patentee/Applicant	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate

Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country/Agency	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Place of Publication, Etc.)

	Abstract of JP 62177868 A, Aug. 4, 1987, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.

Examiner	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.